

February 24-25 Session

# AMA Alumni Board to Meet at Virginia Beach

Augusta Military Academy's future will be discussed when the AMA Alumni Association Board of Directors meets Saturday, February 25 at the Seahawk Motel in Virginia Beach.

Association President **Gary Nicholson, '70**, said that the Board was invited to meet in Virginia Beach "by a number of dedicated Tidewater AMA alumni who have been meeting regularly to keep Augusta's flame aglow." **Jim Bob Lane, '49**, is making arrangements for the meeting.

## **All Augusta Alumni are Invited**

In addition to the 2 PM board meeting on Saturday, all AMA alumni are invited to a reception and dinner Saturday night at the motel. The reception and dinner cost is \$17 per person. A special AMA room rate is available at the Seahawk both Friday and Saturday nights, February 24-25 - \$33 per night for a double room with an ocean view. Alumni should contact the Seahawk Motel direct at 1/800/333-6921 toll free, or at 804/428-1296 to make both dinner and/or room reservations. Major credit cards will be accepted, or alumni may send personal checks to secure both dinner or room reservations.

"We probably will know by the end of February if the sale of AMA to the group from Florida has gone through," said Nicholson. "The Bankruptcy Court in Harrisonburg has promised action on the Culbertson bankruptcy filing which has prevented Crestar Bank from closing the deal with the potential purchasers from Florida." (See story below)

A hospitality suite will be open both Friday and Saturday nights, February 24-25 at the Seahawk which is located at 26th and Atlantic Avenues, Virginia Beach, VA 23458.

## AMA Property Sold, or is it?

A Tampa-based religious organization bid \$345,000 for the buildings and most of the grounds at AMA in a trustee's sale, but the property owner filed a bankruptcy petition which has put the sale in doubt. Great Ministries International (GMI), which calls itself "multi-denominational", plans to use the facilities as a homeless shelter or senior rehab center.

Just before the auction on September 28, Doyle Culbertson had a deed prepared conveying the Augusta property to the AMA Corporation. The deed, signed by Culbertson's father who had owned the property for a decade, was recorded at the Augusta County Clerk's office the morning before the trustee's auction.

### **Bankruptcy Petition Filed Same Day**

That same afternoon, AMA Corporation filed a Chapter 11 petition in the Federal Bankruptcy Court in

(cont'd on page 7)

### **INSIDE**

President's Message -- 2  
Class Notes ----- 3  
Annual AMA Reunion - 7

**Augusta Military Academy  
Alumni Association, Inc.**

January 1995



Dear Fellow Alumnus:

Happy New Year to everyone of you! 1995 will be filled with news about AMA, its buildings, and its grounds. As I said previously, our hopes for reopening Augusta as a school likely are gone, but we will continue to follow the legal and financial developments closely.

More than ever, it seems to me that the principal purpose of your Alumni Association is to keep us in touch with each other. We are putting a new emphasis on our Class Notes section here in *The Bayonet*. We will be urging you to attend the 1995 Reunion May 5-7 at the Holiday Inn in Staunton. And we are hoping that many of you can attend our next Alumni Association Board meeting at the Seahawk Motel in Virginia Beach February 25-26. Details of these two events are found elsewhere in this issue.

For the Association to remain effective, we need to hear from you. Send us information about yourself for the next issue of *The Bayonet*. Make plans to attend the Reunion and/or the Virginia Beach Board meeting. And give us your advice and counsel on how to serve all the "Men of Augusta" better.

Now, a personal note. I want to give loving thanks to my Susan. Before our last Board meeting in Williamsburg, she was up at 4 AM making sandwiches and goodies for the guys. We all appreciated that, Susan. Especially me!

K. Gary Nicholson '70

President, AMA Alumni Association, Inc.



Newsletter of the AMA Alumni Association, Inc.  
P.O. Box 101, Fort Defiance, VA 24437-0101

Editor: Bob Bradford, '50  
Circulation Manager: Ed Click, '50

The *Bayonet* is distributed to alumni and friends of the Augusta Military Academy. Notice of changes of address should be sent to Alumni Records, c/o Edwin Click, Rt. 1, Box 12, Fort Defiance, VA 24437-0101. Please provide your 9-digit ZIP code!

The *Bayonet* welcomes information and articles for or about AMA alumni. Share the news of promotions, awards, retirement, births, marriages, deaths, etc. Please print or type your submission.

Mail or FAX information to:  
Bob Bradford  
1325 Virginia Street  
Danville, CA 94526-1241  
Phone 510/837-8083  
FAX 510/838-0928



**Sound Off, Mister!**

Now, that's not an order, but it is a plea for you to tell *The Bayonet* - and your fellow alumni what you've been up to!

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Your Name and Class \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, 9-Digit ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Area code and phone \_\_\_\_\_

# Class Notes \ Class Notes \ Class Notes

## 1930

**Tom Hughes** celebrated his 83rd birthday December 12. Tom says he's feeling fine, but he must undergo radiation treatment for a time. Good luck to you, Tom!

## 1931

**Ben Chiswell** celebrated his 80th birthday on August 28. Congratulations, Ben! He spent a long, hot summer in Lake San Marcos, CA recovering from an abdominal aortic aneurysm repair. Ben asks if anyone knows anything about **Ike Messmore, '32**. If so, please contact Ben.

## 1935

**Richard Wilson** and Margaret are back in Crystal Beach, FL after a spectacular trip to Vancouver, British Columbia; San Francisco; Melbourne, Australia; and a three week driving tour of Tasmania. Dick said he had "a hell of a time renting a car in Tasmania...until I showed them my pilot's license!"

## 1936

**Sam Jordan** lives in Colorado Springs and is now in Florida for an extended stay.

## 1938

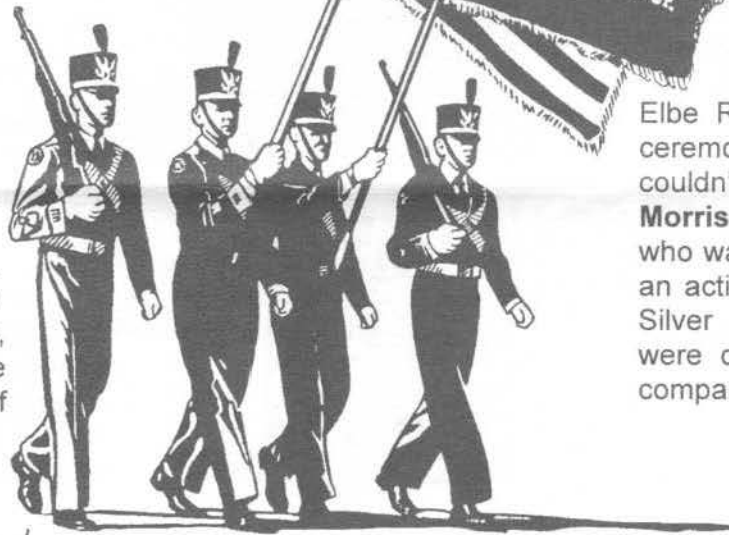
**Larry Kurtz** and Jill have moved to a new address in Punta Gorda, FL: 10327 Arrowhead Drive, Punta Gorda, FL 33955.

## 1939

**Mickey Gordon** says he is "still working eight days a week, but did 'cheat' in September and took a week off to holiday in Coronado." Mickey and Libby also left Fort Defiance to spend a week in Maine last October.

## 1940

**Herb Richey** liquidated the Richey Coal



Company last December, but is active as a Director of the Fairchild Corporation, Fairchild Industries, Oglebay Norton, Sifco Industries and Washington Energy Processing, Inc. He lives in Hot Springs, VA.

## 1941

**John Minor** is a Director and Chairman of the Trust Committee of the First Knox National Bank in Mount Vernon, Ohio.

## 1943

**C. Norris Harrison's** son Alan graduated as valedictorian of his class at Queen Ann's County High in Chestertown, MD and has a full scholarship to Northeastern University.

**Earl Cabaniss** was in Europe this past summer retracing his World War II service and he attended the 50th Anniversary D-Day celebration. In 1944, Earl and his 654th Tank Destroyer Battalion went ashore 30 days after D-Day. He was attached to the 35th Infantry from there to the Elbe River. During the D-Day ceremonies, Earl said he couldn't help but think about **Morris Guerrant, Ad Astra '42**, who was killed 30 April 1945 in an action that won for him the Silver Star. Earl and Punchy were co-captains of the C.W. company in 1942.

## 1944

**Henry Dunbar** is President of Dunbar, Shade & Tomlin, Inc.

Henry has been a manufacturers' representative in Richmond since 1953.

## 1945

**Dave Brewer** has retired from the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company. In February, he and Barbara will be moving to Pawleys Island, SC.

**Ray Long** and Nancy took a long vacation trip to the North-

west and Midwest covering more than 6,000 miles, eleven states and part of Canada visiting friends and family, including their children and grandchildren. They live in Peoria, AZ.

**J.W. Jack Stanley** sold his Blue Ridge Transfer Company in Roanoke last year. We were very sorry to hear that Jack's wife Betty passed away this past June.

### 1947

**Harry May** is planning the 1996 ~~20~~ **Astra** reunion in historic Lexington, Virginia.

**John Herring** lives in Richmond and on his many visits to London he stays at the Victory Club at Marble Arch.

**Johnny Pappas** has retired from Delta Airlines and has returned to his first love - jazz! Hopes some of you can help him find the other members of his *Augusta Rythmn Makers* - **Max Kuniansky, Curtis Lowe, Jerry Izenburg** and **Luke Sykes**.

### 1948

**Hal Walters** continues giving golf lessons in Lake Worth, FL and does various woodworking projects for his grandkids. He is happy to share patterns with any alumnus who is into woodworking. Address: 6802 Hatteras Dr., Lake Worth, FL 33467.

**Richard McLaughlin** toured Russia on the TransSiberian Railway this past Fall. He spent a few nights in Moscow and presented letters from his Babylon, NY Rotary Club to Rotarians in the Russian capital.

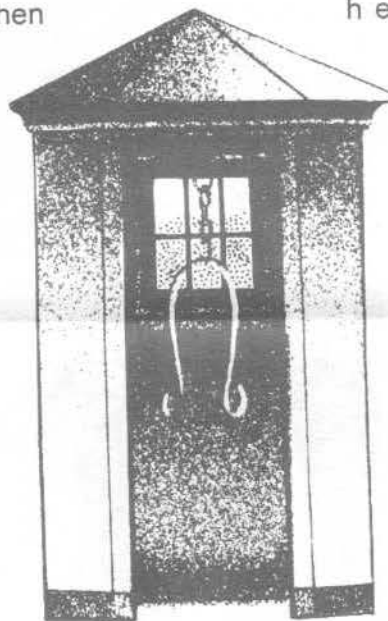
**Bill Harris** and **Frances** have added 54 acres to their Heart of My Heart B&B in Round Top, TX. They now have 17 rooms and baths and hope that many AMA alumni will drop in for a visit or a stay.

**Bill Sanders** passed away on 7 August. (See **TAPS**, page 8)

**Walton Z. "Zim" Major** died 23 December. (See **TAPS**, page 8)

### 1949

**Frank Spencer** frightened his friends and family when he



became ill during the Alumni Board meeting in Williamsburg in early December, but he is fully recovered.

### 1950

**Jack Russell** is recovering from a boat accident this summer which resulted in three broken bones in his foot. He's now back in shoes for the first time in ten weeks, but says he walks like Jed Clampett. Jack and Lenore live in Annapolis. He retired after 30 years as an engineer at Westinghouse.

### 1951

**Jack Hodge** and **Mary Scott** have built a new house in Blackstone, some 30 miles from their old home in Colonial Heights. Jack will be commuting to his job as Chief Engineer of the Virginia Department of Transportation in Richmond until he retires.

### 1952

**Cole Sandridge** has retired from State Farm where he was an underwriting specialist. He and Roy Ann live in Charlottesville.

### 1953

**Lee Trinkle** and **Catherine** live in Birmingham with daughters **Leta Sue Bone, Mary Beth** and **Gini Lee**.

**Bob Lowenbach** plans to retire in 1995. He and **Betty** live in Leesburg where he is employed by the Loudon County government.

**Alex Wattay** is retiring March 1 after many years as one of American Airlines' top pilots. He and **Diane** plan to attend the May reunion.

### 1955

**Martin Cohen** has moved from Canton, MA to Stoughton, MA. He is on disability retirement after a career as a CPA and as the operator of a retail ice cream store.

### 1956

**Trion "Duke" Fancher** has been with the *Washington Post* since 1968.

**Tony Webster** and **Ann** live in Belleville, IL. He says he hopes



"to get to a reunion one of these days." May 5-6, Tony!

### 1957

**Jim Hume** teaches computer skills and English at the Hillsdale High in San Mateo, CA where he also coaches cross country and track.

**Jim Smith** has retired from Westinghouse after 33 years. He is now consulting to architects for heating and cooling controls. Jim is a trustee for the Kent Island, MD Amateur Radio Club.

### 1959

**Dave Conrad** is Vice President of Abacus Security Services with offices in Richmond and Norfolk. Dave serves on the AMA Alumni Board.

### 1960

**Jim Crawford** is now Director of Reliance Comm/Tec, a communications company in Atlanta.

### 1961

**Russell Calvert** retired from the U.S. Army in 1985 as a lieutenant colonel after 20 years, serving as PMS&T at the University of San Francisco just before retiring. Russ is married to "a girl 21 years younger than I am and we have two sons aged 6 and 2."

### 1962

**Rob Overly** and Lorna have moved from Ohio to Scottsdale, AZ. He's with the Frank Gates Service Company. Rob and Lorna now have three children.

### 1964

**Alan Berliere** is a District Manager for Circuit City. He and Kim are relocating from Wayne, PA to Palm Desert, CA at the end of the year. Their 1995 address: 41-210 Carlotta Drive, Palm Desert CA 92260-3262.

**Frank Hruza** plans to retire as Deputy Chief of Detectives in Essex County, NJ at the end of the year. Frank and his daughter plan to move to Las Vegas after his retirement.

**Stuart Lane** has retired and lives in Aylett, VA when the weather is nice. He stays

in Florida

the



rest  
the  
year.  
Says  
he  
is  
"temporarily doing  
brain surgery to make  
ends meet!"

### 1965

**Joe Almo** spent four years at AMA in the Junior School. He now operates a swimming pool construction company in the summer and a ski shop in the winter in English Creek, NJ.

### 1966

**Barry Weeks** is a financial and management consultant in Lake

Mary, FL. He and Anna celebrated their 25th Anniversary in 1992. They have two children: Jennifer, 25; Stephen, 21; and a grandson Matthew, 3.

**Charles Robert Smith** is United Parcel Service Manager in Mount Laurel, NJ. He and Sue moved to Mount Laurel from Oviedo, FL early this year.

### 1970

**Jorge Rovirosa** has been looking for **Lee Hall**, '69, since 1974. The **Ad Astra** Roster brought them together after 20 years!

**Steve Trent** will retire from active duty in the U.S. Army 31 July 1995. Steve is Command Liaison Officer at Forces Command, Training and Doctrine Command at the Pentagon. After he retires, he will work for Grimsley's House of Tools in Portsmouth, VA.

### 1971

**Larry "Stride" Coleman** has retired "after 20 years, 96 days and 45 minutes" of service in the Army Special Forces Command. He is living in Wirtz, VA (near Rocky Mount) and is a custom protection officer for the Wackenhut Corporation.

### 1972

**Doug Driscoll** and Anita have five children: Noelani, Brooke, Andrew, Lyon and Grant. They live in Columbia City, IN.

**Paul "P.J." Thomson** is a high school teacher. His wife Sarah is director of nursing for a surgical center in Winchester.

**Rick Ellett** lives in Wirtz, VA and works at Contractor Roadway Package System. He visited P.J. Thomson over Thanksgiving for their annual deer hunt.

### 1973

**Guillermo "Bill" Morales** is Relocation Director at Coldwell Banker Penn One Real Estate in Lewisburg, PA.

### 1975

**Larry Nicholson** is a military observer in Palestine. Address: Major L.D. Nicholson, USMC; US Military Observer Group, UNTSO; PSC 98, Box 100, APO AE 09830-0008.

**Brett Thompson** is a remodeling contractor in Charlottesville and a very busy member of the Charlottesville Volunteer Fire Company.

### 1976

**Dave Langley** is a real estate agent in Hanover, PA. He and Marla Kay live in Littlestown, PA with sons Joshua, 10, and Jacob, 8. He closed Langley's Printed Specialties this past September, but can still replace lost *Astra* pins. Call 1/800/222-6177.

**Mike Arrington** received a call from his old roommate Dwight Nitz who found Mike's address in last year's *Astra* Roster. Mike continues to support space shuttle flights at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Alabama.

**Arturo Escobar** has his own production and post-production studio in Burbank, CA. His company, Nonlinear Films, produces mainly Spanish language commercials, and Arturo has just completed a feature-length film.

### 1977

**George Mineff** and Laura had their fourth child last June 24. The Mineff family lives in Rocky River, OH.

**Charles Livick** has been promoted to Assistant Operations Manager at Capital Parts Washers in Lewisberry, PA.

**Shawn Ogimachi** is a systems analyst at the University of California at Santa Cruz.

### 1979

**Lee Miller** has restored a 214-year-old log cabin adjacent to Prickett's Fort State Park near Fairmont, WV. The house be-

longed to the family of Lee's wife, Kimberlee. Last year, lightning knocked down the chimney on the historic house, and Lee spent much of the summer making repairs.

### 1981

**Todd Livick** is a Company Commander in the 222d Base Support Battalion in Baumholder. Captain Livick and Andrea had a baby girl - Taylor - on 12 October.

### 1983

**Wayne Kreson** is considering re-entering the service. Last year, he left the US Navy after a ten year hitch, serving on the carrier *USS Eisenhower*.

**Sean Craddock, Jr.** transferred to Randolph Macon Military Academy after AMA closed. He now lives in Stuart, FL.

## Computer Connections

Several alumni have given their Prodigy addresses which enable computer users to exchange messages. The Prodigy addresses we have:

MIKE ARRINGTON, '76 - KGCK20A  
BOB BRADFORD, '50 - JPFW19A  
BILL HARRIS, '48 - YXXM29A  
HARRY MAY, '47 - DANN93A  
GARY NICHOLSON, '70 - TXPV87A  
JACK RUSSELL, '50 - SJRV81A  
HAL WALTERS, '48 - MKTK52A

Three alumni have given us their Internet addresses:

JIM HUME, '57 -  
jhume@ed.co.sanmateo.ca.us  
SHAWN OGIMACHI, '77 -  
ogi@ucsc.ucsc.edu  
BOB BRADFORD, '50 -  
reb111270@aol.com

Send your Internet or Prodigy address to Bob Bradford. We'll publish any new addresses in coming editions of the *Bayonet*.

## We Need your 9-digit ZIP Code!

In order to do the less expensive bulk mailings, the Post Office requires the full nine ZIP numbers. (Example: 24060-1416) Recent "911 conversions" from rural routes and box numbers to named streets and assigned house numbers causes similar problems, and there are no directories to help mailers.



**PLEASE - WITHOUT DELAY - SEND ANY ADDRESS CORRECTIONS AND YOUR 9-DIGIT ZIP CODE TO:**  
Edwin Click, P.O. Box 101, Fort Defiance, VA 24437-0101.

Feel free to make any corrections to your current mailing label, including preferred titles, names or spellings. If you care to make your home or business phone numbers available to anyone contacting the AMA Locator Service, please add them.

VMI Parade to Honor Augusta

# Annual Reunion Set for May 5-6

The 1995 Alumni Reunion will be held May 5-6 at the Holiday Inn (formerly the Sheraton) in Staunton with a dress parade at VMI in Lexington on Friday, May 5 in honor of AMA.

Alumni Association President **Gary Nicholson**, '70, said the parade "will start around 4 PM Friday on the VMI Parade Ground."

A general membership meeting for all AMA alumni will be held at 9 AM Saturday at the Staunton Holiday Inn with a Board meeting to follow. Founder's Day will be celebrated at the Old Stone Church Cemetery at 3 PM. A Saturday night reception will begin at 6 PM with a dinner-dance commencing at 7 PM.

All the details of the reunion in the next *Bayonet*!

## School Sold - Maybe

(from page 1)

Harrisonburg. Crestar Bank, holder of Culbertson's mortgage, called the filing "a scheme to delay, hinder or defraud creditors."

### Bank files motion

Crestar filed a motion to block the bankruptcy claim with a pledge that the money deposited by GMI would be returned if their motion was denied or not acted on within 45 days. The 45 days have expired, but there is no news on what has transpired.

### Earlier plans

Culbertson announced in mid-1994 that he planned to reopen the school with 160 students. He told alumni in June that the buildings at AMA could be made ready for student occupancy with the expenditure of "a few hundred thousand dollars."

At the Alumni Association December meeting in Williamsburg, Culbertson offered to sell the school to the Association for \$1.2 million.

**Send your 9-digit ZIP code to Ed Click TODAY! Thanks!**

**WE'RE  
HEADED  
FOR**



**FEBRUARY 24-25**

**AMA ALUMNI BOARD  
MEETING & DINNER**

All events at the SEAHAWK MOTEL  
26th & Atlantic, Virginia Beach

AMA Alumni Board meets at 2 PM Saturday

Hosted Reception at 6 PM

Dinner at 7 PM - \$17 per person

Your Choice of Prime Rib  
or Stuffed Flounder

HOTEL MUST HAVE YOUR CHOICE IN ADVANCE!

Heated  
Indoor  
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Hospitality  
Room Open  
Both Friday  
& Saturday  
Nights

SPECIAL AMA  
ROOM RATES!  
\$33 per night for an  
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Call the Seahawk Motel direct to make DINNER OR ROOM RESERVATIONS!

Phone 1/800/333-6921 Toll Free, or call 804/428-1296.

Personal checks or credit cards can be used to confirm reservations.

**All AMA Alumni & Guests Warmly Welcomed!**



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## Legacy Scholarship Applications Due

The children and grandchildren of AMA alumni may apply for a \$1000 initial enrollment AMA Legacy Scholarship to any accredited educational institution.

Applications must be returned to the AMA Alumni Association by February 28.

Alumni Treasurer **Edwin Click, '50**, has applications which can be obtained by writing him at P. O. Box 101, Fort Defiance, VA 24437-0101. Click said that the 1995-6 Scholarship is unfunded at this time.

The winner of the 1994-5 Scholarship was Amy M. de Ayora, daughter of **Michael de Ayora, '65**, a student at St. Mary's College, California.

## Academy Grads Earn Social Security Credits

If you attended one of the military service academies between 16 September 1940 and 31 December 1956, you earned \$160 a month in creditable Social Security wages, according to **Hal Walters, '48**, a graduate of the US Naval Academy.

Hal suggests that those affected consult with their retirement planners.

### Correction

**Jim Bob Lane** and **Bill Parker** were co-captains of the Augusta 1949 swim team, not **Frank Litton** as was reported in the last *Bayonet*. Lane won the 100 yard free style and Parker was on the winning 200 yard relay in the 1949 Virginia State Meet.

TAPS



## William Sanders, '48

31 July 1994 - Captain, D Company; ~~at~~ Astra; Secretary of Student Body; Honor Committee. Graduate of NC State. CEO of Sanders Motor Company, Raleigh, NC. Vice President, Senter-Sanders Tractor Corporation. Past President of Raleigh Merchants Bureau and Tourists & Convention Assn.

## Walton "Zim" Major, '48

23 December 1994 - Sergeant, D Company. Lived Florence, KY; died in Florida.

## William A. Pugh, '61

Details unavailable.

**Joe Flesher** - Cook at AMA for last 24 years school was open. Age 84, died in Fort Defiance late 1994.